However, the shortfall is due to levies/taxes on ethanol imposed by the different States. The matter has been taken up with the concerned State Governments to reduce/remove the duties and taxes on ethanol meant for doping with petrol. Some of the States like Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Madhya pradesh and Jharkhand have recently exempted/reduced the import and export fee.

Manpower in oil and Gas PSUs

579. SHRI PRASANTA CHATTERJEE:
SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of permanent employees working in PSUs under the administrative control of this Ministry as on 31st March, 2007, unit-wise; and

(b) the number of contract/casual/contingency workers working in these units as on 31st March, 2007?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) The number of permanent employees working in the major PSUs under the administrative control of this Ministry and the number of contract/ casual/contingency workers working in these PSUs are as under:

(As on 31st March, 2007)

Name of the PSU	Number of permanent employees	Number of contract/casual/ contingency/workers
ONGC	33810	17495
IOCL	29862	20031
HPCL	10891	18585
BPCL	13968	3250
GAIL	3474	8762
OIL	8476	2799
EIL	2551	1

Procurement of LPG cyclinders from Norway

580. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to procure domestic LPG cylinders from a Norwegian company;

(b) if so, the features of the new LPG cylinders to be procured from the Norwegian company;

(c) the terms and conditions on which such LPG cylinders would be procured;

(d) whether the safety aspects of such LPG cylinders have been taken into account; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?